

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Rex Huang on January 12, 2010.

In the Claims:

- a. Claim 35, line 13: after "multiple-layer structures" insert --- , wherein said crystallization temperature of said phase change material of said initial layer and said phase change material of said final layer is in a range from about 90 degrees Celsius to about 120 degrees Celsius ---
- b. Claim 48, line 15: after "multiple layers structures" insert --- wherein said crystallization temperature of said phase change material of said initial layer and said phase change material of said final layer is in a range from about 90 degrees Celsius to about 120 degrees Celsius ---
- c. Cancel claims 46 and 61

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

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2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 35 and 48 both recite a plurality of layers of different first and second phase change materials, with an initial layer of phase change material and a final layer of phase change material that is over the plurality of phase change material layers, wherein the initial and final layer of phase change materials have lower crystallization temperature and higher crystallization speed, and wherein the crystallization temperature is within a range of 90 degrees to 120 degrees Celsius. Although the prior art teaches a stack layers of phase change materials, including a layering wherein an initial layer has a lower crystallization temperature and higher crystallization speed than the subsequent plurality of phase change material layers (e.g. see Nishihara et al. US 2002/0131309 A1, ¶ [0034]), there is nothing the prior art that anticipates or renders obvious forming a final layer over the stack of layers, with the final phase change material layer having a lower crystallization temperature and higher crystallization speed than the remaining layers within the stack, along with the claimed range of crystallization temperature of 90 – 120 degrees Celsius. Claims 36 – 45 and 47 depend from claim 35, and claims 49 - 60 and 62 depend from claim 48.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ROBERT HUBER whose telephone number is (571)270-3899. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (11am - 7pm EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thao Le can be reached on (571) 272-1708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Lex Malsawma/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2892

/Robert Huber/
Examiner, Art Unit 2892
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